

LISTINGS OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A backlight driving circuit comprising:
 - a high-voltage part configured to apply an A.C. high voltage to a first terminal of a plurality of fluorescent lamps;
 - a low-voltage part configured to apply a lower voltage than that of the high-voltage part to a second terminal of the plurality of fluorescent lamps;
 - a connection part that connects the high-voltage part to the low-voltage part; and
 - a protection circuit between the low-voltage part and the connection part.

2. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 1, wherein the connection part includes first and second feedback connectors that electrically connect the high-voltage part to the low-voltage part.

3. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 1, wherein the protection circuit includes a plurality of zener diodes and a resistor.

4. (Currently Amended) The backlight driving circuit of claim 3, wherein the plurality of zener diodes are respectively connected to a power source line, between the low-voltage part and the connection part, and a ground terminal in different directions and the resistor is connected between the zener diodes.

5. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 3, wherein the plurality of zener diodes and the resistance are formed on a PCB (Printed Circuit Board) of the low-voltage part.

6. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 2, wherein pins of the first and second feedback connectors are disposed at intervals smaller than that of a discharge distance that would permit a discharge to occur at the high and low voltages applied by the high-voltage part and low-voltage part, respectively, if insertion failures of the first and second feedback connectors existed and the protection circuit were removed.

7. (Original) A backlight driving circuit comprising:

a high-voltage part at a first portion of a rear side of an LCD panel, the first high-voltage part configured to apply an A.C. high voltage to a first terminal of a plurality of fluorescent lamps;

a low-voltage part at a second portion of the rear side of the LCD panel, the low-voltage part configured to apply a lower electric potential than that of the high-voltage part to a second terminal of the plurality of fluorescent lamps;

a connection part that connects the high-voltage part to the low-voltage part; and

a protection circuit through which a high voltage generated between the low-voltage part and the connection part is shunted to a ground terminal.

8. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 7, wherein the connection part includes first and second feedback connectors that electrically connect the high-voltage part to the low-voltage part.

9. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 7, wherein the protection circuit includes a plurality of zener diodes and a resistor.

10. (Currently Amended) The backlight driving circuit of claim 9, wherein the zener diodes are respectively connected to a power source line, between the low-voltage part and the connection part, and the ground terminal in different directions and the resistor is connected between the zener diodes.

11. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 9, wherein the plurality of zener diodes and the resistor are formed on a PCB (Printed Circuit Board) of the low-voltage part.

12. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 8, wherein pins of the first and second feedback connectors are disposed at intervals smaller than that of a discharge distance that would permit a discharge to occur at the voltages applied by the high-

voltage part and low-voltage part, respectively, if insertion failures of the first and second feedback connectors existed and the protection circuit were removed.

13. (Original) The backlight driving circuit of claim 7, further comprising a direct type backlight that includes the high-voltage part, the low-voltage part, the connection part, and the protection circuit.

14. (Original) An LCD device comprising the backlight driving circuit of claim 7.

15. (Original) A method of protecting a backlight driving circuit of an LCD device, the method comprising:

obtaining a high-voltage part and a low-voltage part that respectively supply an A.C. high voltage and a voltage lower than that of the A.C. high voltage to a plurality of fluorescent lamps;

obtaining a connection part that connects the high-voltage part and the low-voltage part; and

obtaining a protection circuit between the low-voltage part and the connection part.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the connection part includes first and second feedback connectors that electrically connect the high-voltage part to the low-voltage part.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the protection circuit includes a plurality of zener diodes and a resistor.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of zener diodes are respectively connected to a power source line between the low-voltage part and the connection part, and a ground terminal in different directions and the resistor is connected between the zener diodes.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the plurality of zener diodes and the resistance are formed on a PCB (Printed Circuit Board) of the low-voltage part.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising grounding the low-voltage part when a voltage generated between the high-voltage part and the low-voltage part is large enough to permit a discharge to occur if insertion failures of the first and second feedback connectors existed and the protection circuit were removed.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein pins of the first and second feedback connectors are disposed at intervals smaller than that of a discharge distance over which discharge between the pins would occur.

22. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising applying light generated by the plurality of fluorescent lamps to a display panel of the LCD.

23. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising obtaining a direct type backlight that includes the high-voltage part, the low-voltage part, the connection part, and the protection circuit.

24. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising testing the protection circuit before incorporating the backlight driving circuit in the LCD device.

25. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising manufacturing the backlight driving circuit.